

TOMB OF
DRACULA

MARVEL COMICS GROUP™



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THE TOMB OF **DRACULA** LORD OF VAMPIRES!

**DRACULA
IS TRULY
DEAD!**

AND HE'S LEFT
US TO FACE HIS
GREATEST FOE--
ALONE!



THE TRIUMPH OF **DR. SUN!**

Hidden in the shadows where legend and reality merge, there are tales of a being who has lived more than five hundred years; they say he is a creature born not on earth, but in the deepest bowels of Hell itself; they say he thrives upon the blood of innocents, that he is the King of Darkness...the Prince of Evil and that even the bravest man quakes in fear at the merest mention of his name...

Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

TOMB OF DRACULA!

NIGHTMARES OF A LIVING DEADMAN!

THE BATTLE
IS ENDED,
DRACULA...

...THE ONLY
WAY IT
COULD HAVE--

--WITH
YOUR
DEATH!

HIS BONES ARE TOO TIRED,
TOO WRACKED WITH PAIN TO
LIFT THEM IN A SHOW OF
DEFIANCE.

BUT STILL HE TRIES,
LORD, STILL HE TRIES.

BLACKNESS FLOODS
ACROSS HIS BROW; A
TIDE OF EBONY DEATH
WASHES OVER HIS
MIND; AND THICK,
DARK BLOOD OZZES
PASTE-LIKE FROM
THE OPEN RIP IN HIS
CHEST.

IT CAN NOT BE
STOPPED: DEATH HAS
COME TO DRACULA.
DEATH HAS
FINALLY COME
RIDING!

AND ITS WELCOME
IS A LONG AND
TERRIFIED SCREAM!

MARV WOLFMAN * GENE COLAN & TOM PALMER * JOHN COSTANZA * TOM PALMER
WRITER/EDITOR ARTISTS letterer colorist

HE LAUGHS OFF THE PAIN AND THE BLOOD; HE **PRETENDS** IT DID NOT HAPPEN. HE TRIES EVER-SO-DESPERATELY TO **LIFT** HIS DECAYING FLESH, TO FIGHT THE ROTTING, CRUMBLING BONES THAT **DECAY** WITH EVERY STRUGGLING MOVEMENT HE MAKES. AND HE RISES DESPITE THE FACT THAT HE **CAN NOT RISE!** AND THEN HE **SPEAKS**, WHEN ALL **LOGIC** DEMANDS HE SHOULD **NOT BE ABLE TO SPEAK.**

SCUM! I'LL NOT DIE THIS NIGHT...

...DRACULA IS IMMORTAL!

DRACULA MUST NEVER DIE!

ARRGGHHH!!!

NOTHING CAN GO ON FOREVER, DARK ONE. NOTHING!

--YOU SHALL NEVER LIVE AGAIN!

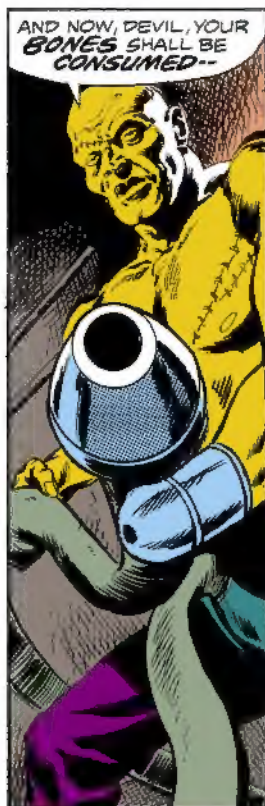
RATHER, YOU SHALL BE CON-SIGNED TO A HELL GREATER THAN EVEN YOUR IMAGINATION CAN CONJURE!

AND YOU, SELFISH DEMON THAT YOU ARE--

DIE, DRACULA, DEMON OF THE AGES, LORD OF THE UNDEAD, PRINCE OF THE DARKLING SOULS OF HELL.

DIE AND KNOW THE PAIN, THE **TERROR** WHICH YOU INSPIRED SO LONG IN OTHERS.

DIE! DIE! DIE!!



AND NOW, DEVIL, YOUR BONES SHALL BE CONSUMED--



--WITH FIRES MORE FIERCE THAN THE BRIMSTONE FLAMES OF HELL!



REST IN PEACE, DRACULA, FOR IT SHALL BE A LONG REST INDEED.

BLACKNESS

END

COLD SWEAT. IT--IT IS HORRIBLE!

BLACKNESS!

YEEEEEE

HA HA



AND THEN; LIGHT.

AURORA?!? WHAT'S WRONG? YOU WERE SCREAMING!

DID YOU HAVE A NIGHTMARE?

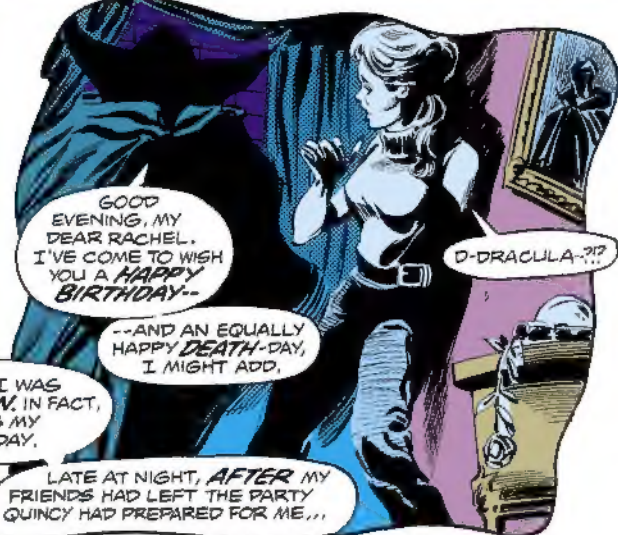
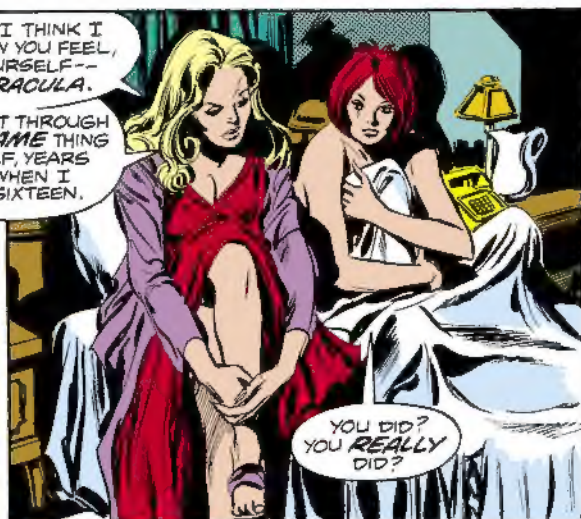
OH--IT WAS AWFUL, SIMPLY AWFUL!

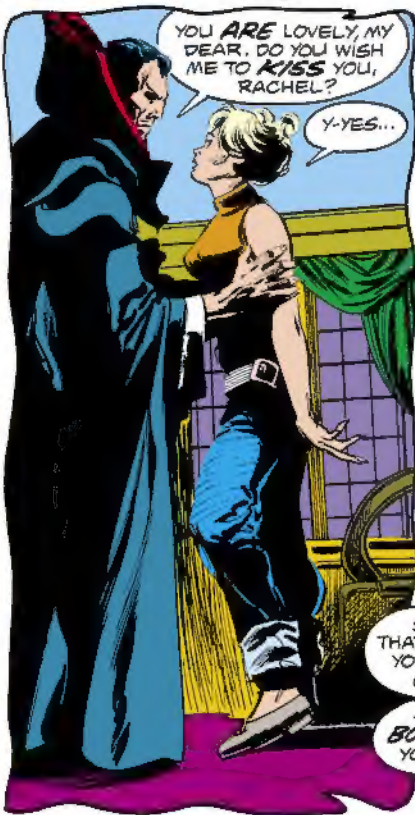
OR MAYBE YOU WERE JUST THINKING ABOUT ME!

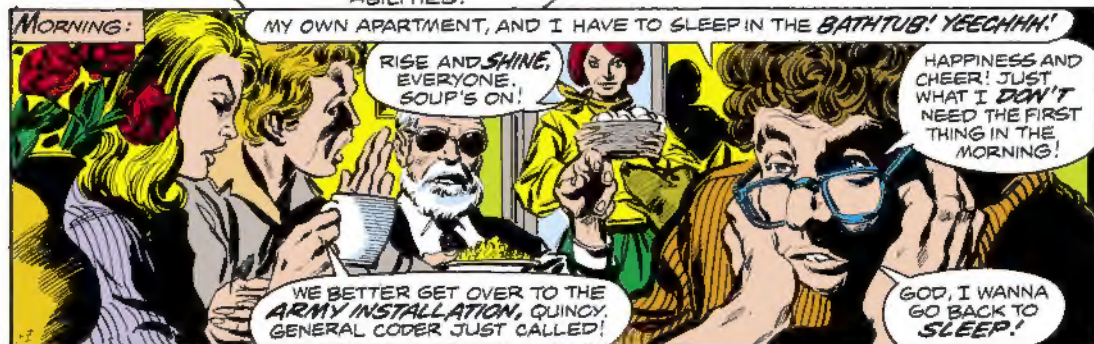
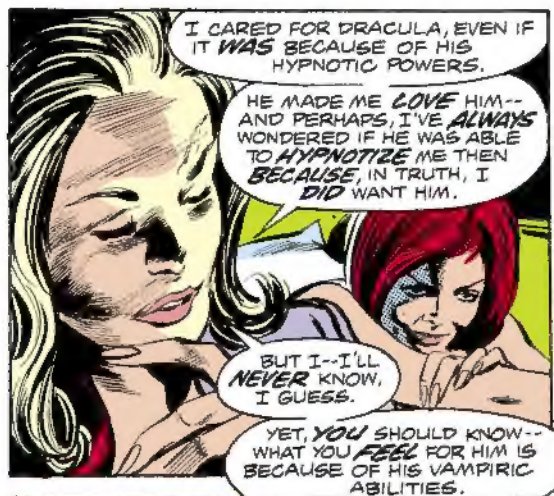
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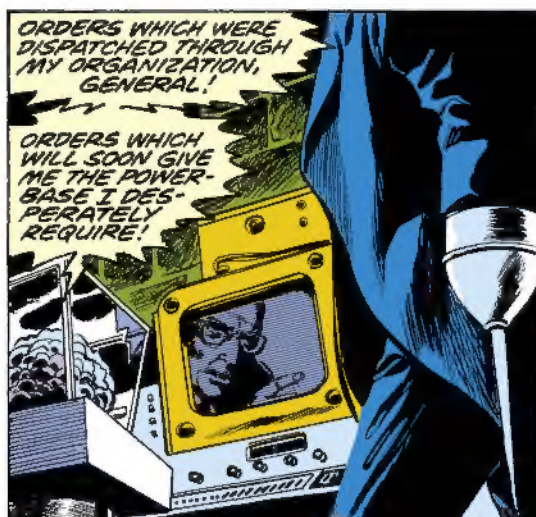
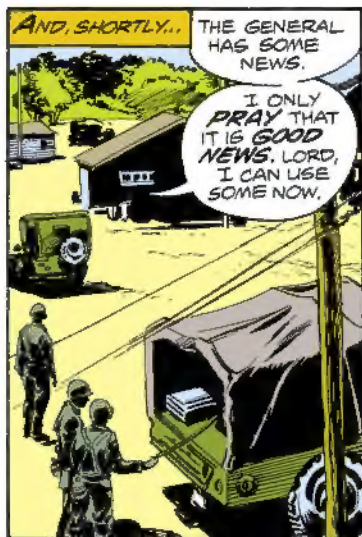
YEAH! SHE WAS DREAMING ABOUT ME!

I--I WAS WATCHING DRACULA BEING KILLED AGAIN, AND I FELT... I REALLY FELT THE FLAMES!



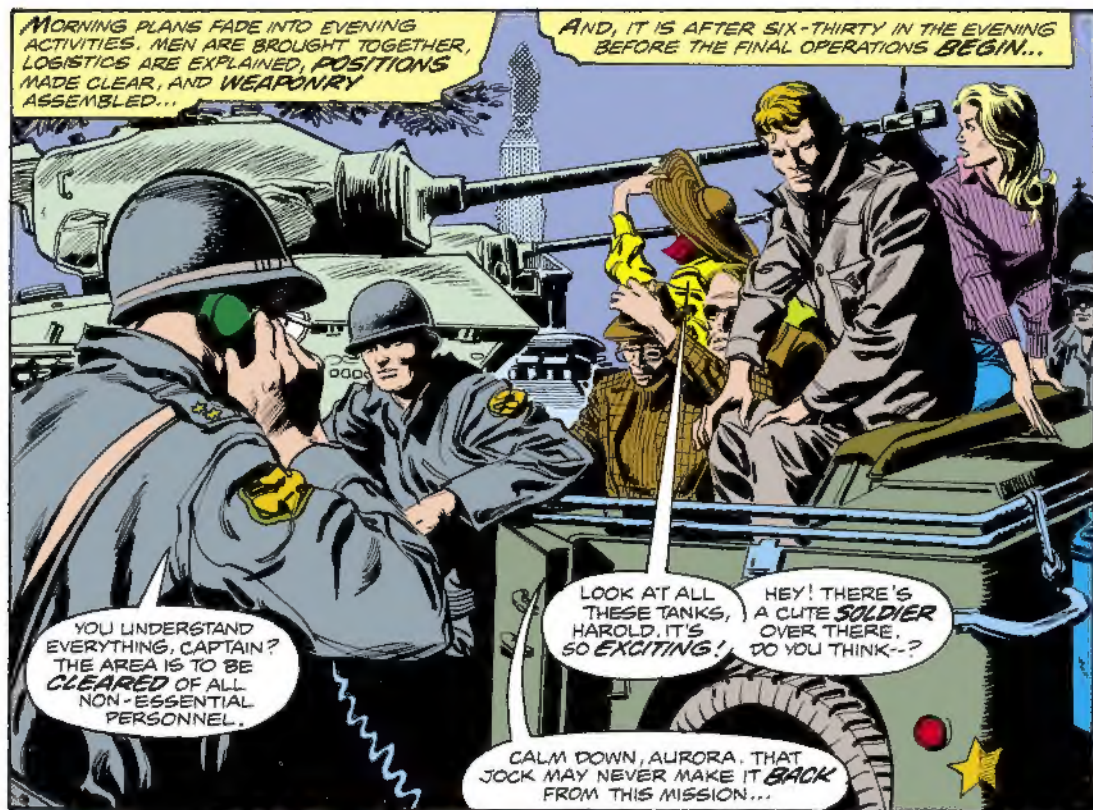






MORNING PLANS FADE INTO EVENING ACTIVITIES. MEN ARE BROUGHT TOGETHER, LOGISTICS ARE EXPLAINED, POSITIONS MADE CLEAR, AND WEAPONRY ASSEMBLED...

AND, IT IS AFTER SIX-THIRTY IN THE EVENING BEFORE THE FINAL OPERATIONS BEGIN...



YOU UNDERSTAND EVERYTHING, CAPTAIN? THE AREA IS TO BE **CLEARED** OF ALL NON-ESSENTIAL PERSONNEL.

LOOK AT ALL THESE TANKS, HAROLD. IT'S SO EXCITING!

HEY! THERE'S A CUTE **SOLDIER** OVER THERE. DO YOU THINK--?

CALM DOWN, AURORA. THAT JOCK MAY NEVER MAKE IT **BACK** FROM THIS MISSION...



...WHILE I WILL **ALWAYS** BE HERE TO SERVE YOU.

OH WELL, I GUESS I'VE GOTTA TAKE THE **BAD** WITH THE GOOD.

IT'S TIME, MEN--
MOVE ON!

KEEP IN **FORMATION!**

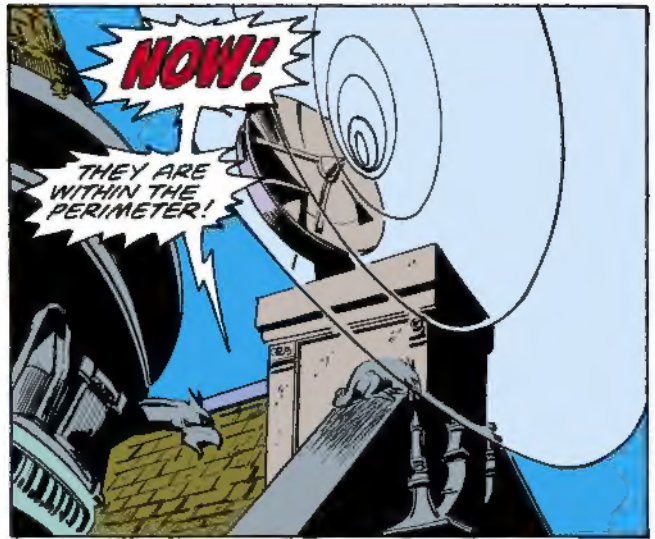
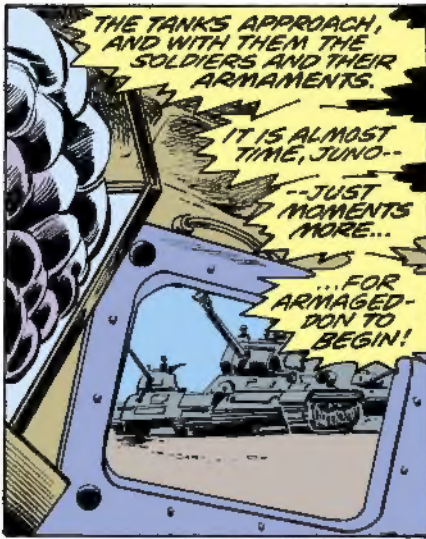
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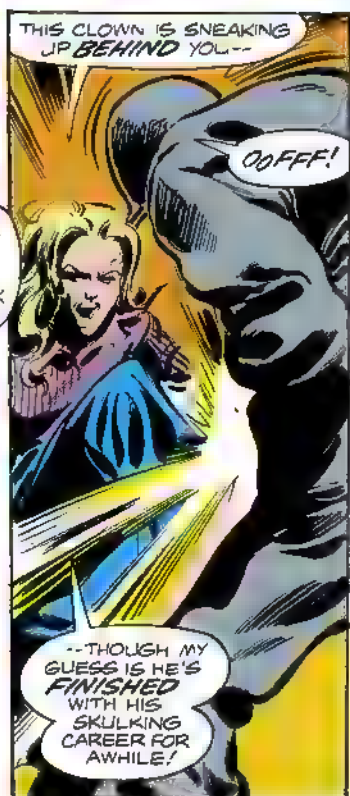
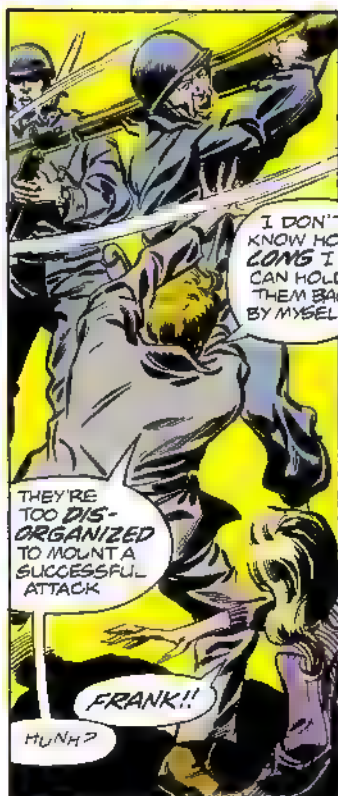
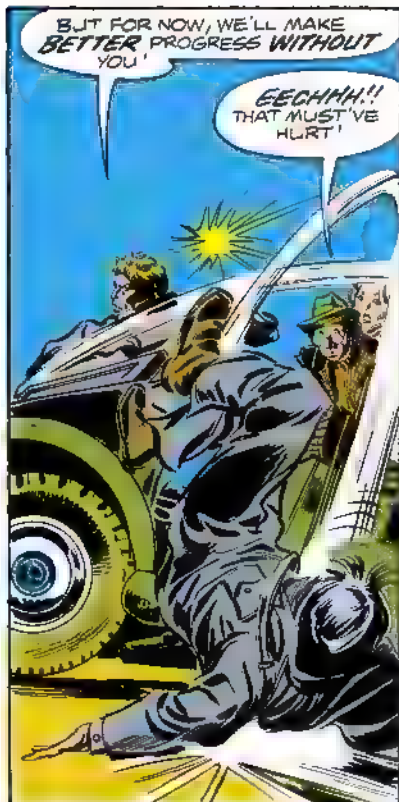


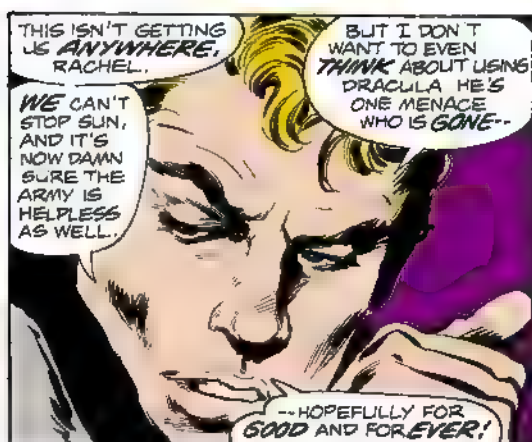
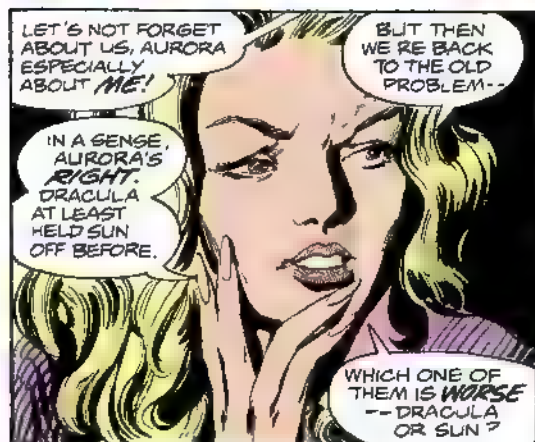
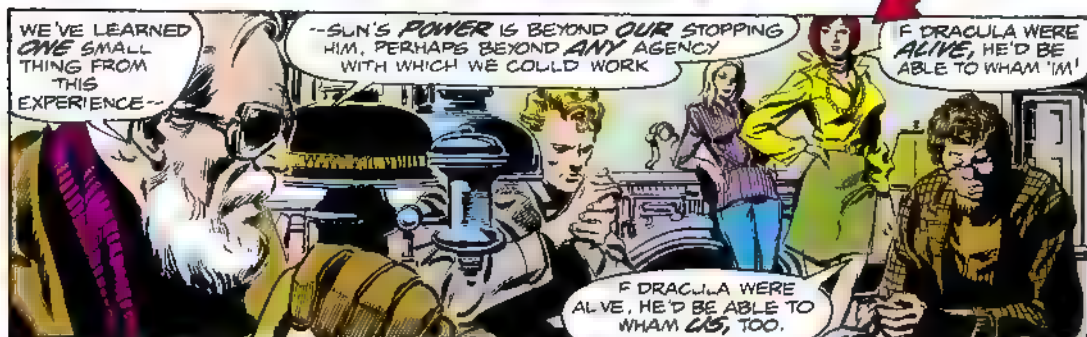
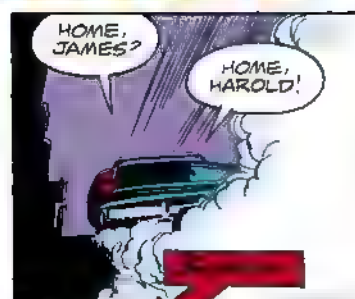
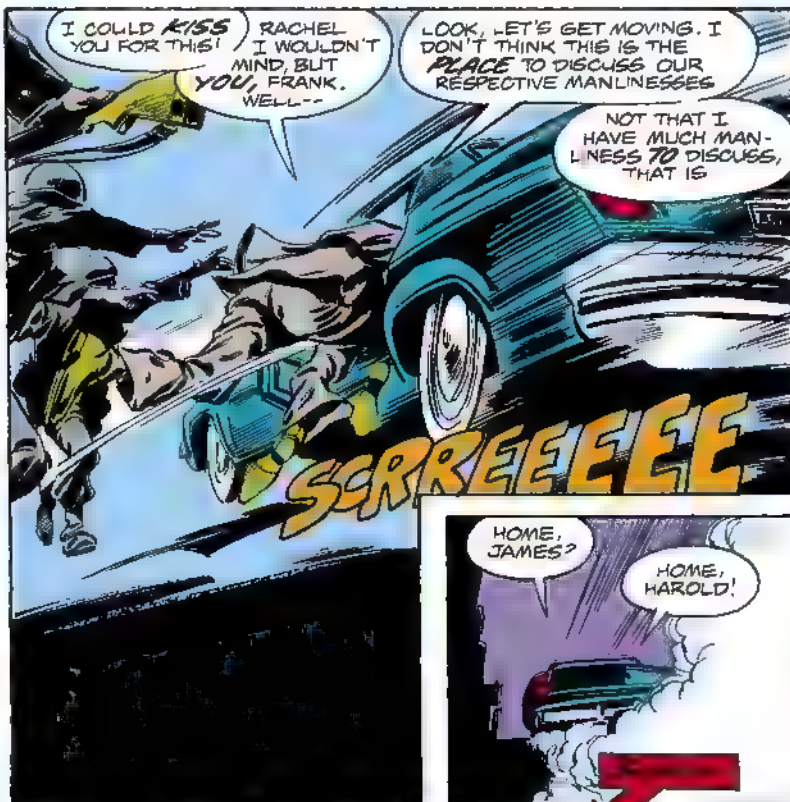
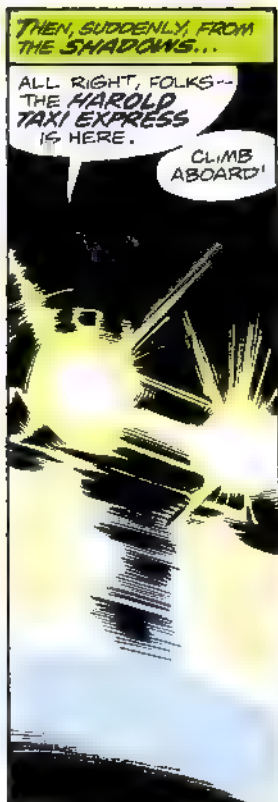
I DON'T MIND TELLING YOU, MR. HARKER, THAT THE **PRESS** IS GOING TO CHEW US INTO **FODDER** FOR THIS OPERATION--

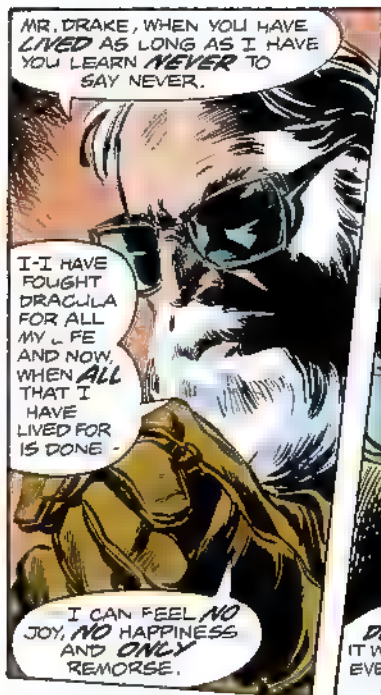
--SHOULD **ANY** OF YOUR INFORMATION PROVE TO BE **INCORRECT!**

I'M **NOT** WRONG, GENERAL CODER. I ONLY WISH I WERE!









MR. DRAKE, WHEN YOU HAVE LIVED AS LONG AS I HAVE YOU LEARN *NEVER* TO SAY NEVER.

I-I HAVE FOUGHT DRACULA FOR ALL MY LIFE AND NOW WHEN *ALL* THAT I HAVE LIVED FOR IS DONE -

I CAN FEEL *NO* JOY, *NO* HAPPINESS AND *ONLY* REMORSE.



A FEW DAYS AGO I THOUGHT WE HAD FINALLY *SLAIN* DRACULA-- FOR HE LAY THERE DYING IN MY HOME, HIS FLESH TURNING TO *DUST*, HIS BONES TO *ASH*.

BUT I HAD TO LET HIM *LIVE*, AND IN SO DOING, PART OF *ME* DIED

YET, I HAD MADE A *DECISION*, AND THOUGH IT WAS ONE I HAD TO REGRET EVEN IN THE MAKING, IT WAS *STILL* A DECISION.



JUST AS I MUST MAKE ONE *NOW*, IT SEEMS.

I FEEL LIKE *ATLAS*--HOLDING THE WEIGHT OF A WORLD ON MY SHOULDERS, YET THIS *MUST* BE A BURDEN I HAVE TO CARRY

GOD HELP ME, I MUST MAKE THIS DECISION. I *MUST*!

WHAT HAS DRACULA MEANT TO *YOU*, MR. DRAKE? YOU ARE HIS DESCENDANT--YOU JOINED OUR BATTLE BECAUSE OF RACHEL



I HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH THIS FOR MANY YEARS--*TOO MANY YEARS*.

FIRST WHEN DRACULA HAD IMPRISONED MY FATHER IN HIS TRANSYLVANIAN CASTLE.

"THEN WHEN HE KILLED MY MOTHER'S BEST FRIEND, AND HAD *ALMOST* SLAIN MY MOTHER AS WELL

'AND MAY THE LORD KEEP HER SOUL IN *ETERNAL REST*--

- WHEN HE KILLED MY *WIFE*, ELIZABETH



FOR, HE HAD AS WELL AS KILLED HER--BY *ATTACKING* HER, DRIVING HER TO THE BRINK OF *INSANITY*.

'AND WHEN SHE DIED YEARS LATER, IT WAS STILL BY *HIS* HANDS

"BUT MY DARLING ELIZABETH WASN'T THE **ONLY** DEATH THAT VISITED ME BECAUSE OF THE FEND.

"A YEAR AGO-- I WATCHED AS HE TURNED MY **DAUGHTER**, EDITH, INTO HIS **SLAVE**--

-AND I **SCREAMED** IN HORROR AS SHE KILLED **HERSELF**, RATHER THAN BE FORCED TO SUBMIT TO THE **TYRANNY OF UNLIFE**.

A DECISION **MUST** BE MADE TONIGHT, MR DRAKE-- AND WHICHEVER WAY IT GOES, TOO MANY GOOD PEOPLE WILL DIE FOR THE DECISION.

BUT I **MUST** DECIDE I MUST.

THERE IS NO DECISION FOR ME, QUINCY - DRACULA MUST **REMAIN DEAD**--

--AND **ANOTHER** METHOD MUST BE FOUND TO **STOP** DOCTOR SUN.

I **STILL** REMEMBER WATCHING DRACULA **SLAY** MY PARENTS. I REMEMBER THEM PLEADING WITH HIM, THEM **BEGGING** WITH HIM, AND I REMEMBER HIM **LAUGHING** AT THEM.

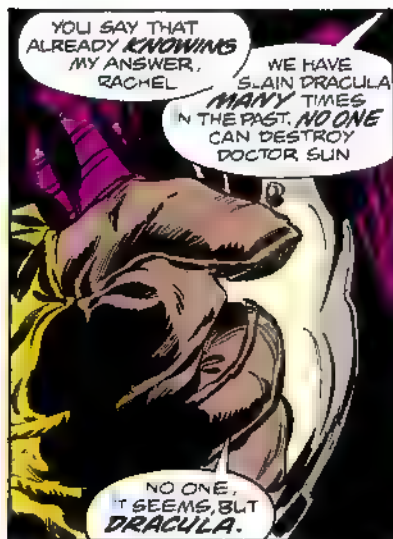
I CARRY MY GRUDGES **LONG**, QUINCY. NOT AN **ADMIRABLE** TRAIT, BUT THAT IS THE WAY THINGS ARE.

I **DON'T** WANT TO SEE DRACULA **LIVE**.

I WANT HIM **BURIED-- FOREVER**.

BUT, QUINCY, AS ALWAYS-- I WILL RESPECT **YOUR** DECISION

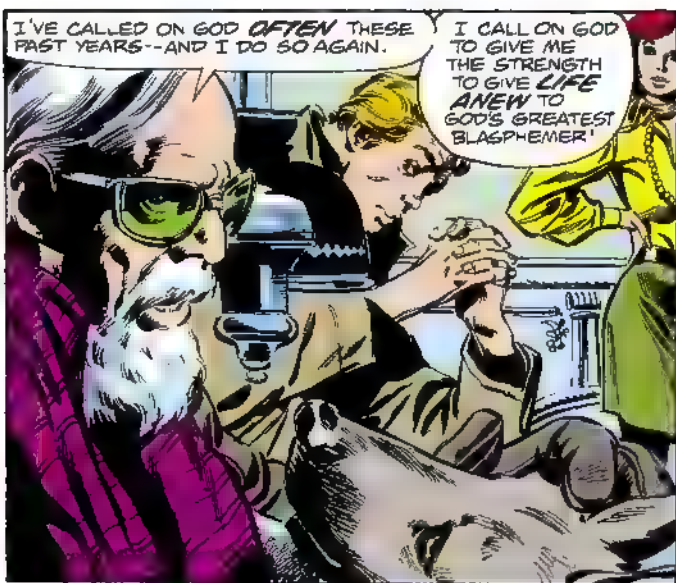
"LAUGHING AS HE SANK HIS FANGS INTO THEIR NECKS, AND **DRAINED** THE BLOOD WHICH GAVE THEM LIFE.



YOU SAY THAT
ALREADY **KNOWING**
MY ANSWER,
RACHEL.

WE HAVE
SLAIN DRACULA
MANY TIMES
IN THE PAST. **NO ONE**
CAN DESTROY
DOCTOR SUN

NO ONE,
IT SEEMS, BUT
DRACULA.



I'VE CALLED ON GOD **OFTEN** THESE
PAST YEARS--AND I DO SO AGAIN.

I CALL ON GOD
TO GIVE ME
THE STRENGTH
TO GIVE **LIFE**
ANEW TO
GOD'S GREATEST
BLASPHEMER!



I JUST FEEL **ALL** OF US
INVADING SUN'S HEADQUARTERS
WOULD BE **DISASTROUS.**

I'LL GO **ALONE**--
AND BRING
DRACULA'S
ASHES
BACK
WITH ME.

I WILL GO **WITH** YOU FRANK.

NO WAY, DARLING--
YOUR PLACE IS
HERE, WITH QUINCY.

I GO--I'M
BETTER **SUITED**
FOR BATTLE THAN YOU
ARE, I'VE **TRAINED**
FOR THIS.

FRANK, I'VE NEVER
SAID THIS TO YOU
BEFORE--BUT,
MISTER--**YOU'VE**
FLIPPED
YOUR LID!



WELL,
HAROLD,
WHAT
ABOUT
YOU?

UH, **THREE'S**
A CROWD, AURORA
I'D REALLY
RATHER **NOT**
FORM A CROWD.

BES DES, VAMPIRE-
FIGHTING CAN BE
DAINGEROUS--
TO MY HEALTH.



DON'T
STRAIN
YOUR
BRAIN
LOVELY
ONE.
I **AM**
A COWARD.
I REALLY
AM.

I'M
HAROLD H.
HAROLD--
THE
LIVING
COWARD!

HAROLD,
SOMETIMES
I THINK
YOU'RE
A LILY-
LIVERED
COWARD.







WE GO THROUGH THE CORRIDORS, GET THE URN WITH DRAC'S ASHES--

--AND WE LEAVE--
FAST!

LEAVING! I LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT WORD. YEAH--

--WHY DON'T WE LEAVE--
NOW!



NO MORE JOKING, HAROLD...

WHO'S JOKING?

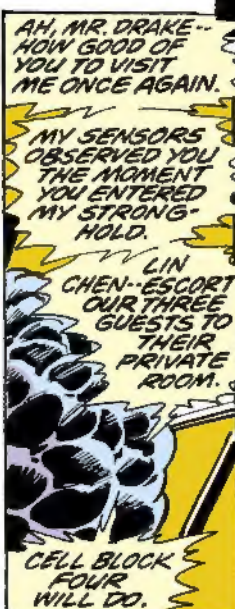
SUN'S
AHEAD
OF US--



--TOO PREOCCUPIED WITH HIS TROOPS.

HE DOESN'T NOTICE US.

SO WHY TAKE ANY CHANCES? LET'S SCRAM OUTTA HERE WHILE WE CAN. LIKE NOW!



AH, MR. DRAKE-- HOW GOOD OF YOU TO VISIT ME ONCE AGAIN.

MY SENSORS OBSERVED YOU THE MOMENT YOU ENTERED MY STRONG-HOLD.

LIN CHEN--ESCORT OUR THREE GUESTS TO THEIR PRIVATE ROOM.

CELL BLOCK FOUR WILL DO.



WE INSTALLED CELLS AFTER YOUR ESCAPE LAST NIGHT, MR. DRAKE.

I AM SURE YOU WILL ENJOY BEING THEIR FIRST TENANT!

DON'T COUNT ON IT, SUN--



I'M NO ONE'S PRISONER!



CORRECTION, FOOL--

--IF DOCTOR SUN SAYS YOU ARE HIS PRISONER--

--YOU SHALL BE HIS PRISONER...

...OR DIE!

